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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

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**Gov. Perdue Announces Additional 100 Jobs with Novartis**  
*Company plans \$36 million investment in Wake County*

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Bev Perdue announced today that Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, Inc., a global leader in vaccine and diagnostics, will add a development lab and pilot plant at the site of its pandemic and seasonal flu production facility in Holly Springs.

The company plans to create 100 new positions in North Carolina and will invest \$36 million as part of the project, which was made possible in part by state grants from the Job Development Investment Grant program and One North Carolina Fund.

“Once again, a top international company is bringing well-paying jobs to North Carolina,” said Gov. Perdue. “Novartis has transformed the economic base for Holly Springs and now is expanding in that fast-growing area. Companies like Novartis know the value of our state’s skilled workforce, thanks to our investments in education and worker training.”

Novartis, headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, employs more than 100,000 employees in over 140 countries. Novartis is a global leader in vaccines and diagnostics for human therapeutics and diagnostic testing. The company is planning the design, construction, and validation of a development lab and pilot plant at the existing Novartis facility in Holly Springs. The proposed facility would contain research and development scale equipment as well as medium scale equipment and facilities necessary for clinical manufacturing.

“Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics is excited to start construction of our new viral lab and pilot plant that will enable us to advance our viral vaccines pipeline and develop new technologies so we can get life-saving vaccines to patients quicker. We chose the Holly Springs location for this important project because of the great talent pool to recruit from, proximity to area universities and the relationship we have with our neighbors in the state, county and town of Holly Springs”,